GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2736
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2006
DOMESTIC CHILD WORKERS
Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the domestic child workers are not included in the `Child Labour Act, 1986`;

(b) If so, whether the Government proposes to amend the law to include domestic child workers there in now;

(c) If so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be amended;

(d) Whether the Government has not ratify the ILO convention on worst forms of Child Labour (No. 182); and

(e) If so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) to (c): Government has issued a notification under the Child Labour

(Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibiting the employment of children below the age of 14 years as domestic workers or servants w.e.f 10th October 2006.

(d) & (e) :India supported the ILO Convention No. 182 on Worst Forms of Child Labour at the time of its adoption as we are in agreement with the principles of the Convention. However, one of the important clauses of Convention defines child as a person up to the age of 18 years, whereas most of Indian laws, including Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 define child as a persons below the age of 14 years. On ratification of the Convention, the Government would have to amend all these acts within 12 months of ratification and therefore the said ILO convention has not been ratified. Inter-ministerial and Tripartite consultations are being held to evolve a consensus on the issue.